

Buck Tavern
Columbia
Monroe County
Illinois

PHOTOGRAPHS
HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

BUCK TAVERN
Columbia, Monroe County, Illinois

Owner. Fred Juengling.

Date of Erection. About 1828.

Architect. None.

Builder. Robert Coleman.

Present Condition. The building has undergone a number of minor changes through the years, but none have particularly changed the general appearance from that as originally constructed. It is quite well preserved, though in need of additional repairs. The rear portion, which was not made accessible for investigation, was added sometime between 1840 and 1850.

Number of Stories. Two, and partial basement.

Materials of Construction. The structure is of braced frame construction, and of skeleton type. Oak posts, beams, and trusses are spaced at intervals of about eleven feet, all joints mortised and tenoned with oak pin dowels. Horizontal bracing is provided at each floor line and the walls formed between supports with vertical studs. The whole is sheathed and covered with white pine weatherboards. For the most part, interior partitions and ceilings are matched and beaded pine boards. Floors are pine on oak joists. Composition shingles on the roof have replaced the original wood shingles.

What was originally the porch floor, under the second story overhang, is now the public sidewalk.

Other Existing Records. None, except an early photograph owned by the August F. Weinel Lumber Company.

Additional Data. This building was originally constructed for an ox-mill and later converted into a tavern, being on the main trail between St. Louis and Kaskaskia. The stage coach office was located in the east corner of the first floor. The town pump was on the east end of the porch and the mangers for the horses along the east side.

Mr. A. Grosse, whose residence is recorded in this survey, acquired the tavern in 1860, and was a genial host. His table was always set, and at any time, day or night, he was ready to make his guests as comfortable as possible. A large stable, still standing, 1936, was at the rear, where fresh horses were kept, and a blacksmith shop across the road was maintained for the proper care of both horses and coaches.

Judge Bryan, father of William Jennings Bryan, and Col. William R. Morrison were frequent guests. President Cleveland and Mark Twain also stopped here.

Reference: Mr. Shody of Prairie du Rocher, Illinois.

(Approved)

Ugler E. Lundeen
District Officer

HABS
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67-COLUM,
3-

An addendum to:
Buck Tavern
(Grosse Inn)
Columbia
Monroe County
Illinois

HABS No. IL-232-3

PHOTOGRAPHS

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

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WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

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ADDENDUM TO
BUCK TAVERN
HABS No. ILL-232-3
(PAGE 3)

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY
BUCK TAVERN

See also HABS-IL-232-1 for drawing(s).